



PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 5, 2006.

Sarah C. Carranceja  
Sarah C. Carranceja

Applicant : Xian Yao, et al. Confirmation No. 5454  
Application No. : 10/731,710  
Filed : December 9, 2003  
Title : METHOD FOR FORMING ULTRA HARD SINTERED COMPACTS  
USING METALLIC PERIPHERAL STRUCTURES IN THE SINTERING  
CELL  
  
Grp./Div. : 1742  
Examiner : Weiping Zhu  
  
Docket No. : 50547/M277

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
December 5, 2006

**Commissioner:**

Enclosed is an amendment to the above-identified application.

**Amendment Transmittal Letter**  
**Application No. 10/731,710**

\* IF HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR IS 20 OR LESS, WRITE "20" IN COLUMN 3

\*\* IF HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR IS 3 OR LESS, WRITE "3" IN COLUMN 3

\*\*\* PAY THIS FEE ONLY WHEN MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS ARE ADDED FOR THE FIRST TIME

Attached is our check for \$ to pay the fees calculated above.  
A Petition for Extension of Time and the required fee are enclosed.  
Other enclosures:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by or to give effect to this paper to Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any charge or credit to our Deposit Account. **A copy of this letter is enclosed.**

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By

Constantine Marantidis  
Reg. No. 39,759  
626/795-9900

CM/scc

SCC PAS709550.1-\* 12/5/06 9:09 AM



PATENT  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1742

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Sarah C. Carranceja

Appl No.	: 10/731,710	Confirmation No. 5454
Applicant	: Xian Yao, et al.	
Filed	: December 9, 2003	
Title	: METHOD FOR FORMING ULTRA HARD SINTERED COMPACTS USING METALLIC PERIPHERAL STRUCTURES IN THE SINTERING CELL	
TC/A.U.	: 1742	
Examiner	: Weiping Zhu	
Docket No.	: 50547/M277	
Customer No.	: 23363	

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
December 5, 2006

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action mailed on October 10, 2006, Applicant has the following remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.